

Message Text

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INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SALVADOR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC BR

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM (ANEL FERROVIARIO)

TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY REPORTS ON RECENT TRIP

1. INTERVIEW PUBLISHED BY SALVADOR PRESS JULY 8, WITH BAHIA STATE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION WELLINGTON FIGUEREDO, GAVE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO BELGIUM, GERMANY AND THE US TO LOOK AT EQUIPMENT FOR RAIL LOOP PROJECT.

2. BELGIUM -- FIGUEREDO REPORTED THAT DIRECTORS OF BANQUE BRUXELLES LAMBERT HAD OFFERED SEVEN YEAR LOAN FINANCE SALVADOR PROJECT. TERMS WERE NOT ANNOUNCED BUT FIGUEREDO STATED THAT BELGIANS HAD FURTHER INDICATED THAT SHOULD BELGIAN EQUIPMENT BE SELECTED FOR THE LOOP THROUGH INTERNATIONAL BIDDING PROCESS FINANCE CHARGES ON THE LOAN WOULD BE REDUCED THROUGH A SUBSIDY FURNISHED BY BELGIAM MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. FUNDS FROM THIS SUBSIDIZED LOAN COULD ALSO BE APPLIED TO CIVIL CONSTRUCTION WORK MADE NECESSARY BY AND ATTENDANT TO THE ADOPTION OF BELGIAN EQUIPMENT. SECRETARY CONCLUDED THAT THIS OFFER PLACED BELGIAN INDUSTRY IN EXCELLENT COMPETITITE POSITION FOR BIDDING ON LOOP EQUIPMENT.

3. GERMANY -- SECRETARY REPORTED THAT GERMANS WERE THE MOST EXPERIENCED MANUFACTURERS OF PRE-METRO EQUIPMENT SINCE THEY HAD BEEN IN THE FIELD MORE THAN 15 YEARS.

4. US -- FIGUEREDO NOTED THAT BOEING-VERTOLD EQUIPMENT

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WHICH HAD UNDERGONE THREE YEARS OF TESTING OFFERED EXCEPTIONAL

CONDITIONS OF SAFETY AND COMFORT FOR THE PASSENGERS.

5. IN SUMMING UP HIS IMPRESSIONS SECRETARY WAS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS -- BELGIANS OFFER GOOD FINANCING; GERMANS THEIR EXPERIENCE; AMERICANS COMFORT AND SAFETY. ONLY INTERNATIONAL BIDDING CAN TELL WHICH OF THEM WE WILL CHOOSE BECAUSE ALL IN SYNTHESIS ARE GOOD. SECRETARY ALSO ADDED THAT HE HAD BEEN CAREFUL TO VISIT ONLY THE THREE GROUPS WHICH WERE IN CONTACT WITH NATIONAL FIRMS TO MANUFACTURE EQUIPMENT IN BRAZIL WITH A PROGRESSIVE INDEX OF NATIONAL CONTENT.

6. FOREGOING MESSAGE PREPARED BY CONSUL SALVADOR. WHITNEY'S TRIP REPORT ON VISIT TO BOEING VERTOL WITH SECRETARY FIQUEREDO WAS SENT TO DEPT IN MEMORANDUM FORM BY POUCH.
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